(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, the dates when the house searches referred to in (*a*) were conducted ;

(*c*) the owners or occupiers of such houses where the searches were conducted ;

(*d*) whether the searches were made in exercise of the powers conferred upon them by section 30 of the Abkari Act or section 31 of the Abkari Act;

(*e*) the rank of officers who conducted the searches and entered the premises in each case ;

(*f*) if the searches were made under section 31 of the Abkari Act, whether the officer who ordered the house-searches or conducted the house-searches has recorded his reasons and grounds for taking recourse to section 31 of the Abkari Act ;

(*g*) if such records as mentioned in (*f*) are available, whether they can be placed on the table of the House ;

(*h*) whether any person or persons were arrested and taken to custody in cases where house-searches were made (the names of persons and the hour of the day when they were arrested may be given) ;

(*i*) when were those arrested persons released on bail (the date and hour of the day may be given);

(*j*) the offences for which such persons were charged ?

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Commissioner of Excise):* (*a*) to (*j*) The cases are subjudice and the matters cannot therefore be revealed at this stage.

PALAYANNUR EXCISE OUTPOSTS—INVESTIGATION BY INSPECTOR—OF CASES DETECTED, ETC.

177. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the number of Excise outposts within the jurisdiction and supervision of the Excise Inspector, Palayannur Range, with the number of peons or other members of the Preventive Staff stationed in each out-post ;

(*b*) the number of cases of offences under the Cochin Abkari Act detected from each of such outposts during the first three months of 1115 ;

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(*c*) whether the Excise Inspector, Palayannur, has visited these outposts during the period mentioned in (*b*); if so, the dates on which he has visited each of the outposts referred to in (*a*);

(*d*) whether the Inspector has conducted any enquiry in the cases detected by the staff of the outposts; if so, whether any record is available to show that he has made inquiries; if available, will the Government be pleased to place those records or extracts therefrom on the table of the House?

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Commissioner of Excise):* (*a*) Two posts, *viz.* Mayannur and Pampady with two peons in each post.

(*b*) Nil.

(*c*) Yes; Mayannur post on 15th Chingam 1115, 29th Chingam 1115, 29th Kanni 1115, 13th Thulam 1115 and 23rd Thulam 1115 and the Pampady post on 6th Chingam 1115, 13th Chingam 1115, 18th Kanni 1115, 28th Kanni 1115, 9th Thulam 1115 and 22nd Thulam 1115.

(*d*) Yes, in two tobacco cases reported by the Post orderlies, the Sub-Inspector questioned the accused persons and they confessed their guilt. No written statements are recorded in such cases and so no statements were taken. No record is therefore available.

PALAYANNUR EXCISE RANGE—COMPLAINTS REGARDING ARRESTS, DETENTION, ETC.

178. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they have had any occasion to take action against any Excise Officers or subordinates under sections 59 and 60 of the Cochin Abkari Act (Act I of 1077) for vexatious search or arrest of vexatious delay, in the years 1113 and 1114;

(*b*) whether any complaints have been received by the Excise Commissioner during the last 3 months of 1114 and 1st 3 months of 1115 against the Excise Inspector, Palayannur Range, alleging that there has been such arrests, detention or delays;

(*c*) if answer to (*b*) is in the affirmative, whether any action has been taken in that matter, whether

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